

Nam-Du KIM *et al.*
Appln. No. 10/501,299
Amendment and Request for Reconsideration



AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 6 (lines 19-24) with the following amended paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment, the concentration of alkali hydroxide in the aqueous alkali solution used in the present invention is in the range of 20 to 40% (w/v), preferably 30% (w/v). If the concentration of ~~the aqueous alkali solution~~ the alkali hydroxide is less than 20% (w/v), the yield decreases due to the generation of excessive by-products. On the other hand, if the concentration of the ~~aqueous alkali solution~~ alkali hydroxide is more than 40% (w/v), the yield is decreased due to the increase of decomposed products.